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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/674,255	09/29/2003	Yuichi Iwase	09792909-5694	1727

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EXAMINER

HON, SOW FUN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1772

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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09/10/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/674,255

Applicant(s)

IWASE, YUICHI

Examiner

Sow-Fun Hon

Art Unit

1772

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 July 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7-14 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 6/01/07 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

Withdrawn Rejections

2. The 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejections of claims 1-6, over Sekiguchi in view of Nielson as the primary prior art combination, have been withdrawn due to Applicant's amendment dated 06/01/07.

New Rejections

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which

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was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. In independent claim 1, the narrower limitation of "pen" has been replaced by the broader limitation of "stylus" which does not appear in the specification. The term "stylus" is a genus family of writing instruments containing the pen species.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

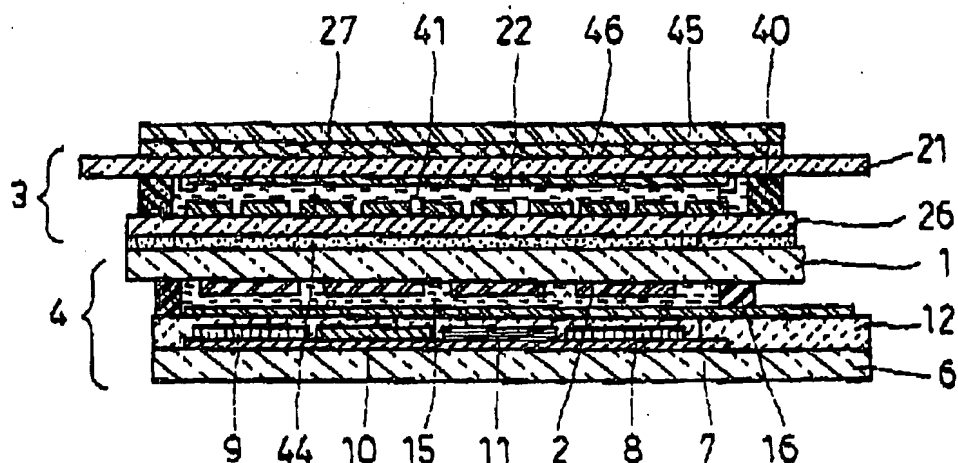
The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

4. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sekiguchi (US 6,771,327) in view of Cropper (US 6,623,608).

Regarding claim 1, Sekiguchi teaches a display unit (portable information equipment, column 8, line 40) comprising: a display panel (4, column 8, lines 39-40, Fig.4) including a substrate (6, column 8, lines 47-48, Fig.4) on which a display device is formed (with the input panel attached thereto, column 3, lines 19-20, Fig.4); and a touch panel which (a) is composed of plastic films (lower substrate 26 of touch panel 3, made up of a polyethyl sulfonate film, column 9, lines 15-17, upper substrate 21 disposed opposite lower substrate 26, is a plastic substrate made up of a film, column 9, lines 42-44), (b) is directly bonded to a whole face of the display panel (there exists no air between lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3 and the first substrate 1 of the display panel 4, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig.4) with an adhesive layer in between (44, column

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12, lines 20-25, Fig.4), and (c) detects contact from a finger (input is provided from the surface of the polarizer 45 as the viewer touches the polarizer, column 12, lines 5-10, Fig.4), or a stylus (input pen 80 onto the touch panel, such input information is recognized by a detection circuit, column 8, lines 1-6).

FIG. 4

Sekiguchi teaches the use of the display panel in portable information equipment (column 5, lines 25-30), wherein the display device is a singular one and is a liquid crystal display device (abstract). Sekiguchi fails to teach that a plurality of display devices as defined by Applicant, is formed on the substrate of the display panel. Applicant's disclosure defines the term "display device" as what is better known in the art as a light emitting diode (light emitting devices 10R, 10G, 10B, Specification, page 14, first paragraph, Fig. 4A).

However, Cropper teaches that in the field of portable information equipment (for example, a personal digital assistant, column 1, lines 15-25), it is well known in the art

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to form a touch panel on a display panel (touch screen formed over the LCD display, column 1, lines 13-25) with an adhesive layer in between (dispensed onto a face plate, column 1, lines 50-53), and that a new class of display devices based upon organic light-emitting diodes is formed by deposition upon a substrate (column 1, lines 54-56) to form an OLED display panel (device, column 2, lines 20-25). Hence Cropper teaches that a plurality of display devices as defined by Applicant, namely organic light-emitting diodes, is formed on the substrate in place of a single display device, namely a liquid crystal display, for the purpose of providing the desired organic light-emitting display panel (OLED display formed on a film on one side of a substrate and a touch screen formed on a film on the other side of the substrate, column 2, lines 28-35).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to have formed a plurality of display devices as defined by Applicant, on the substrate in place of the single display device in the display panel of Sekiguchi, in order to provide the desired organic light-emitting display panel, as taught by Cropper.

Regarding claim 2, Sekiguchi teaches that the touch panel is provided on a side where the display device of the substrate is formed and the display device is sealed by the touch panel, since the touch panel is directly bonded to a whole face of the display panel (there exists no air between lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3 and the first substrate 1 of the display panel 4, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig.4), as defined by Applicant's specification (page 18, last paragraph, page 19, first paragraph, Figure 8).

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Regarding claim 3, Sekiguchi teaches that the touch panel has a structure wherein two plastic films (lower substrate 26 of touch panel 3, made up of a polyethyl sulfonate film, column 9, lines 15-17, upper substrate 21 disposed opposite lower substrate 26, is a plastic substrate made up of a film, column 9, lines 42-44) in which respective transparent electrodes are formed (lower electrodes 27 made of transparent conductive film, column 9, lines 15-20, upper electrodes 22 made up of transparent conductive film, column 9, lines 42-48) are layered so that the transparent electrodes are placed opposite each other (upper substrate 21 disposed opposite lower substrate 26, column 9, lines 42-48). See Fig. 4 of Sekiguchi shown on a prior page.

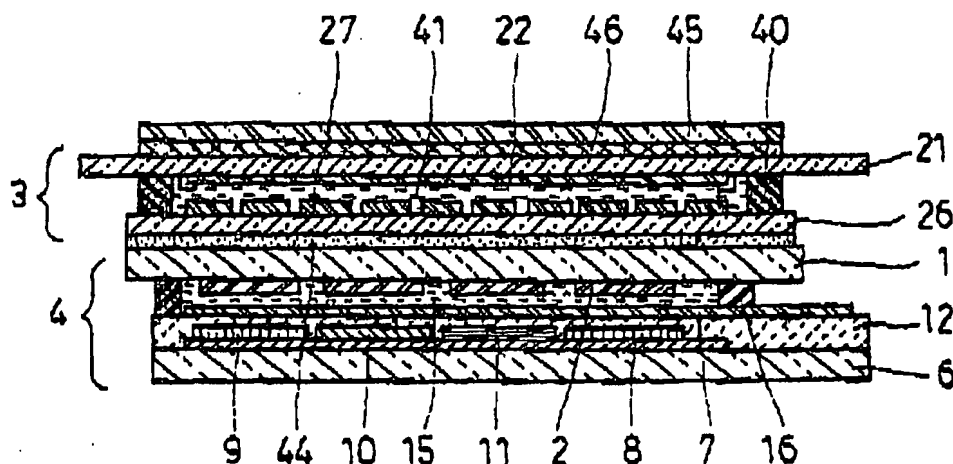
Regarding claim 4, Sekiguchi teaches that the display panel has a sealing substrate (lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig. 4), which is placed opposite to the display device side of the substrate (6, on the side of the liquid crystal layer 15, column 8, lines 39-49, Fig. 4), and the whole faces of the substrate and the sealing substrate are bonded together with an adhesive layer in between (there exists no air between lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3 and the first substrate 1 of the display panel 4 because the double-sided adhesive layer 44 is provided, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig. 4), as defined by Applicant's specification (page 6, Fig.1).

Regarding claim 5, Sekiguchi teaches that the touch panel (3, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig. 4) is provided on the sealing substrate (lower substrate 26, column 8, lines 39-49, Fig. 4) on the side opposite to the substrate (first substrate 1 of display panel 4, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig. 4).

5. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sekiguchi in view of Siwinski (US 6,814,642).

Regarding claims 1,6, Sekiguchi teaches a display unit (portable information equipment, column 8, line 40) comprising: a display panel (4, column 8, lines 39-40, Fig.4) including a substrate (6, column 8, lines 47-48, Fig.4) on which a display device is formed (with the input panel attached thereto, column 3, lines 19-20, Fig.4); and a touch panel which (a) is composed of plastic films (lower substrate 26 of touch panel 3, made up of a polyethyl sulfonate film, column 9, lines 15-17, upper substrate 21 disposed opposite lower substrate 26, is a plastic substrate made up of a film, column 9, lines 42-44), (b) is directly bonded to a whole face of the display panel (there exists no air between lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3 and the first substrate 1 of the display panel 4, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig.4) with an adhesive layer in between (44, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig.4), and (c) detects contact from a finger (input is provided from the surface of the polarizer 45 as the viewer touches the polarizer, column 12, lines 5-10, Fig.4), or a stylus (input pen 80 onto the touch panel, such input information is recognized by a detection circuit, column 8, lines 1-6).

FIG. 4



Sekiguchi teaches that the display device is a single liquid crystal display device (abstract). Sekiguchi fails to teach that a plurality of display devices, as defined by Applicant, is formed on the substrate of the display panel. Applicant's disclosure defines the term "display device" as what is better known in the art as a light emitting diode or light emitting element (light emitting devices 10R, 10G, 10B, Specification, page 14, first paragraph, Fig. 4A).

However, Siwinski teaches that a display unit can comprise as a display panel in combination with a touch panel (touch screen, column 1, lines 20-25), an organic light emitting diode display panel which contains light emitting devices, as defined by Applicant, formed on a substrate (OLED flat panel display 49, light-emitting elements 52, substrate 50, column 2, lines 58-67) in place of a liquid crystal display (column 1, lines 20-25). Siwinski teaches that the organic light emitting diode display has an organic layer including a light emitting layer (organic light emitter 58, column 2, lines 65-

66) between a first electrode (metal cathode layer 62, column 2, line 67), and a second electrode (voltage applied by a voltage source 64 across light emitting elements 52, via cable 67, column 2, line 67, column 3, lines 1-3, Fig. 5), and is an organic light emitting device which extracts the lights generated in the light emitting layer from the second electrode side (voltage applied by a voltage source 64 across light emitting elements 52, via cable 67, column 2, line 67, column 3, lines 1-3, Fig. 5).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to have formed a plurality of display devices as defined by Applicant, on the substrate in place of the single display device in the display panel of Sekiguchi, in order to provide the desired organic light-emitting display panel, as taught by Siwinski.

Regarding claim 2, Sekiguchi teaches that the touch panel is provided on a side where the display device of the substrate is formed and the display device is sealed by the touch panel, since the touch panel is directly bonded to a whole face of the display panel (there exists no air between lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3 and the first substrate 1 of the display panel 4, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig.4), as defined by Applicant's specification (page 18, last paragraph, page 19, first paragraph, Figure 8).

Regarding claim 3, Sekiguchi teaches that the touch panel has a structure wherein two plastic films (lower substrate 26 of touch panel 3, made up of a polyethyl sulfonate film, column 9, lines 15-17, upper substrate 21 disposed opposite lower substrate 26, is a plastic substrate made up of a film, column 9, lines 42-44) in which respective transparent electrodes are formed (lower electrodes 27 made of transparent

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conductive film, column 9, lines 15-20, upper electrodes 22 made up of transparent conductive film, column 9, lines 42-48) are layered so that the transparent electrodes are placed opposite each other (upper substrate 21 disposed opposite lower substrate 26, column 9, lines 42-48). See Fig. 4 of Sekiguchi shown on a prior page.

Regarding claim 4, Sekiguchi teaches that the display panel has a sealing substrate (lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig. 4), which is placed opposite to the display device side of the substrate (6, on the side of the liquid crystal layer 15, column 8, lines 39-49, Fig. 4), and the whole faces of the substrate and the sealing substrate are bonded together with an adhesive layer in between (there exists no air between lower substrate 26 of the touch panel 3 and the first substrate 1 of the display panel 4 because the double-sided adhesive layer 44 is provided, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig. 4), as defined by Applicant's specification (page 6, Fig.1).

Regarding claim 5, Sekiguchi teaches that the touch panel (3, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig. 4) is provided on the sealing substrate (lower substrate 26, column 8, lines 39-49, Fig. 4) on the side opposite to the substrate (first substrate 1 of display panel 4, column 12, lines 20-25, Fig. 4).

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Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Sow-Fun Hon whose telephone number is (571)272-1492. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena Dye, can be reached at (571)272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

S. Hon

Sow-Fun Hon

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